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English Land Restoration
League

Special report, 1892

London

1893

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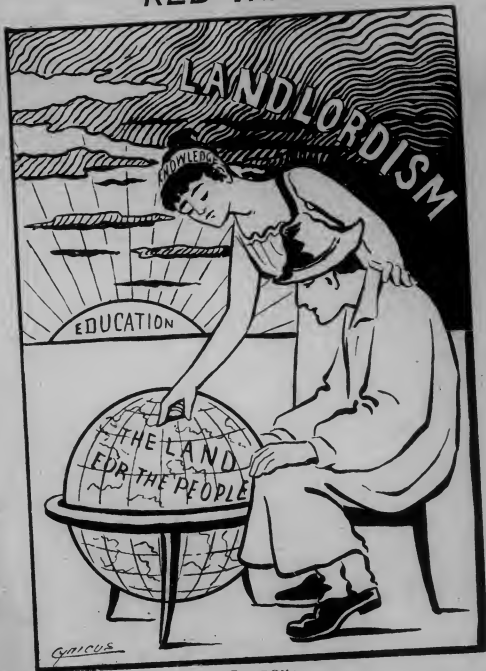
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AMONG THE
AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS
WITH THE
"RED VANS."



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OFFICES OF THE ENGLISH LAND RESTORATION LEAGUE.
8 DUKE STREET, ADELPHI, W.C.

JANUARY, 1893.

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THE CYNICUS PUBLISHING CO.
50 DEURY LANE STRAND, LONDON.

ENGLISH LAND RESTORATION LEAGUE.

SPECIAL REPORT, 1892.

AMONG THE

Agricultural Labourers

WITH THE

“RED VANS”

PRICE ONE PENNY.

LONDON

OFFICES OF THE ENGLISH LAND RESTORATION LEAGUE
8 DUKE STREET, ADELPHI, W.C.

JAN. 1893

English Land Restoration League.

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General Secretary—§ FREDERICK VERINDER.

Organising Secretary—HENRY ANCKETILL.

* These (together with the Officers of the League and one Delegate from each Club or other society affiliated to the League) form the Executive.

† Members of the Van Sub-Committee (1892). ‡ Trustees of the "Red Van Fund."

Offices:

8 DUKE STREET, ADELPHI, LONDON, W.C.

THE "RED VAN FUND" is quite distinct from the "General Fund" of the League. Cheques, Postal Orders, etc., should be made payable "to the account of the Red Van Fund," and crossed "City Bank, Ludgate Hill."

All Communications respecting the League should be addressed to the Secretaries at the office as above. The Organising Secretary will be glad to address meetings on the Land Question in any town or village where local friends can provide a suitable hall.

The Campaign of the Land Restoration Vans (1892) being now concluded, the Secretaries are in a position to arrange Special Lectures on "Life in our Villages," "Land and Labour in Town and Country," and similar subjects, by the various Lecturers who have been travelling with the "Red Vans."

* SUGGESTIONS FOR THE "RED VAN" CAMPAIGN OF 1893 WILL BE GLADLY RECEIVED BY THE SECRETARIES FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE SPECIAL SUB-COMMITTEE.

The Land Restoration Vans:

REPORT.

IN sending out their first "Red Van" into the Suffolk villages in the spring of 1891, the Executive of the League had three principal objects in view: (1) to educate the agricultural labourers, by means of lectures, leaflets, etc., in the principles of Land Restoration; (2) to promote their organisation for the bettering of their conditions, and especially with a view to political action on the Land Question; and (3) to collect accurate information as to the social condition of the villages. The special report* published by the League at the end of the campaign showed what measure of success attended the important experiment made by the League last year. In the minds of the Executive that experiment left no room to doubt that the method adopted by the League for reaching the rural voter was the right one, and that it was capable of widely extended application. Fortunately the means for such extension were not long wanting. By the generosity of half-a-dozen members of the League, supplemented by the trustees of the "Diogenes Fund," a subscription of £1,000 a year for five years was guaranteed, on condition that it should be devoted to a separate fund, entirely distinct from the general fund of the League, for carrying on the work of agitation and organisation in the agricultural counties, on the lines of the "Red Van" campaign of 1891.

During the winter of 1891-2 the special "Van Sub-Committee" appointed by the Executive were engaged in making preparations for the new campaign. Three new vans were built from specially prepared designs; a fourth van was purchased and adapted. Communications were opened up with the leaders of the labourers' movement in various counties, with a view to deciding where the services of the vans could best be utilised. The Organising Secretary of the League visited the counties of Berkshire, Herefordshire, Kent, and Somerset, early in 1892, and addressed a series of preliminary meetings in each county. Literature was prepared for distribution, and the arrangements made last year for the advertising of meetings thoroughly overhauled and perfected. Finally, it was resolved to dispose of the vans during the season of 1892, as follows:

"Red Van" No. 1.—BERKSHIRE.—"The Berkshire Agricultural and General Workers' Union" was formed in April, 1892, as the result of a series of meetings† addressed by the Organising Secretary of the League; Miss C. E. Skerritt, of Wokingham,

* Among the Suffolk Labourers with the "Red Van." One Penny. (Dec. 1891.) A few copies of the second edition may still be obtained.

† A list of all meetings held in connection with the "Red Van" propaganda appears in Appendix A.

having kindly undertaken the office of General Secretary *pro tem*. Van meetings were subsequently held in this county from May 16th to October 20th. It was at first proposed to carry the work into the neighbouring county of Wiltshire, but it was found impossible to do this before the close of the season, and it has now been decided by the members and friends of the League, who are moving in this matter, and their local supporters, to organise a separate union in the latter county, with the probability that it may federate with the Berkshire Union at a later stage.

At a General Delegate Meeting of the Berkshire Union, held at Didcot, on October 27th, Miss C. E. Skerritt was elected *Hon. Secretary*; Miss A. M. Skerritt, *Hon. Treasurer*; L. E. Quelch, *General Secretary*; and Ernest Clarke (late of the Berks "Red Van"), *Organising Secretary*. A representative Executive and Trustees were also appointed. Office: 15 Market Place, Wokingham.

W. S. de Mattos, B.A., was the lecturer with the Berkshire Van.

"Red Van" No. 2.—CAMBRIDGESHIRE.—The work of this van was done in connection with the "Eastern Counties Labour Federation," in continuation of the Suffolk Campaign of 1891, in connection with the same Union. John Murdoch, late editor of the *Highlander*, whose great services to the cause of Land Reform in connection with the Crofter movement are well known, was the lecturer. The "Eastern Counties Labour Federation" now has over 18,000 members in Suffolk, Cambridge and Essex. (*General Secretary*, Joseph Robinson. Offices: 6 Museum Street, Ipswich.)

"Red Van" No. 3.—SOMERSET.—A small union, called the "Somerset and West of England Farm Labourers' Union," had been recently formed in this county (*General Secretary*, Fred. Weston. Offices: Westport, Curry Rivel, "auntion"). Henry Anckettill addressed a series of meetings in South Somerset in January, 1892. The "Red Van," which commenced its work in the county on May 23rd, was under the charge of Anckettill, and afterwards of W. W. Bartlett.

"Red Van" No. 4.—HEREFORDSHIRE (NORTH).—Meetings for the formation of the "Herefordshire Agricultural and General Workers' Union" were held by Anckettill and the Rev. A. C. Auchmuty (E.L.R.L.), Vicar of Lucton, in May, 1892. The latter consented to act as General Secretary *pro tem*. (office: Kingsland, R.S.O., Herefordshire). Henry Anckettill and afterwards Benjamin Riley were the lecturers in charge of the Herefordshire Van.

"Red Van" No. 5.—It was found impossible, owing to the large demand upon the first year's income of the fund for the building of the new vans, to make five complete country campaigns during the first year. The Suffolk "Red Van" was accordingly retained in the neighbourhood of London, with a special view to the opportunities for outdoor meetings likely to arise during the General Election. Series of meetings were held in Hammersmith in support of Frank Smith (E.L.R.L.);

in West Marylebone, in support of J. C. Foulger (E.L.R.L.); and in the Faversham division of Kent, in support of Sydney Hallifax. All these candidates were strongly in sympathy with Land Restoration, and made the Land Question a very prominent feature in their electoral propaganda. All three candidatures were practically hopeless from the first, but the propagandist work done in these Tory strongholds was most valuable, and showed itself in substantial reductions of adverse majorities.

The method of conducting the village meetings has been exactly on the lines of last year's campaign, which have already been described in a former report, and which it is unnecessary to describe again. Profiting by a hint given by the lecturers in Suffolk, a small sheet of "Red Van Songs" was prepared and sent out with the vans for use at the meetings.

At the end of the season the vans returned to London by road from their respective counties, meetings being held nightly *en route*, and arrived in London on Saturday, October 22nd. The lecturers were entertained by the Executive to supper, at the Democratic Club, 36 Essex Street, Strand, on their arrival. Shaw Maxwell welcomed the lecturers, and proposed success to the League on behalf of the Club, and brief speeches on the work of the vans were made by W. Saunders, M.P., L.C.C. (Hon. Treasurer E.L.R.L.), and by John Murdoch, on behalf of the lecturers.

I. PROPAGANDA.

There is no doubt that the propagandist work done by the van lectures has been of a solid and lasting character. Judging by the complaints of the landlords and their sympathisers, in the country press and elsewhere, the success of the vans, in arousing the labourers to a sense of the injustice of landlordism, has been very great. Thus Col. Eyre, M.P., addressing a Conservative meeting on the Land Question last February, denounced Land Nationalisation and Land Taxation with much warmth, and said:

He had been led to speak on this subject by the propaganda of the Land 'Restoration League' who in one of their pamphlets said: "Don't BUY the landlords out; don't KICK them out; but TAX them out." There were only two ways in which this could be accomplished, by the purchase of the land or by confiscation. . . . He thought he had mentioned enough to show them how they must consider these matters very carefully, and not listen to wild schemes propounded by glib orators from a Red Van.

Lord Salisbury, too, thought it necessary in his Exeter speech (February 2nd, 1892), to warn the rural electors against the people who went about in country parishes "speaking from a van," and promising (he said)

no end of profits to the voters if they would vote Radical: profits which are to be had at the expense, not only of their neighbour and the squire, but also at the expense of the Eighth Commandment.

The Executive are, however, not able to corroborate the accounts, generally given by Tory writers* and speakers, of the intimate relation subsisting between the "Red Van" and the Liberal leaders. The alleged zeal of the official Liberals in the cause

* Lady Blake, "In the wake of the 'Red Van,'" *National Review*, May, 1892.

of Land Restoration must be regarded rather as a prophecy of what may be expected in the future, than as an accurate description of facts as they are.

It is impossible to mix with the labourers, or to study the facts collected by the League's lecturers, without being convinced of the justice of the conviction upon which the van campaign is founded, that "the abolition of landlordism" and "the organisation of the labourers for the improvement of their condition" are in the nature of things inseparable. Some landlords, at any rate, see clearly enough the danger to their monopoly of allowing any sort of discussion among the labourers. Lord Bateman, the owner of the village of Shobdon, is one such. The Organising Secretary of the League had obtained permission from the landlord of the "Bateman Arms," Shobdon (Herefordshire), to hold a meeting in the large room of the inn, for the purpose of forming a branch of the Herefordshire Workers' Union. On arriving at the inn on the night of the meeting, he was informed that his lordship's secretary had called and pointed out a clause in the lease which forbade any meeting being held without his lordship's special permission. A similar visit had been paid to every tenant holding a field or orchard under Lord Bateman, who "owns" the whole of the village. An attempt to hold a meeting on the waste land was prevented by the superintendent of the County Police, who was accompanied by a constable, on the ground that Lord Bateman, as lord of the manor, claimed the control of all the waste land; and the police, apparently acting under the instructions of his lordship as lord-lieutenant of the county, similarly prevented the holding of a meeting in the public highway.

On this particular occasion, Anckettill was obliged to deny himself the pleasure of fighting out the matter with the lord of the soil, but when the "Red Van" arrived in due course at Shobdon (July 11th), with Anckettill as lecturer, the Executive gave instructions that the meeting was to be held, despite any objection on the part of Lord Bateman, in whatever part of Shobdon seemed most convenient for the purpose. The meeting, advertised in the usual manner, was accordingly held; the van being placed in an open space right in front of the lordly gates of Shobdon Court. It was stated in the village that Lord Bateman, and his brother, the rector, to whom he has entrusted the spiritual interests of "his" tenantry—had left the village as soon as the announcements of the meeting appeared. However this may have been, the meeting was held, and the gospel of the land for the people was proclaimed, without interference on his lordship's part; but so great was the terror inspired by the tyrannous privileges of the feudal lord, that it was found impossible to form a branch of the Union.* In almost every case, where the land is in the hands of one landlord, or of one farmer under the landlord, the first attempts at organisation are attended by complete

* Fortunately the local press stood less in terror of his lordship, and the executive has to thank the *Hereford Times* and other papers for the excellent reports they gave of the lecture, in which Anckettill pointed the moral of his experiences at Shobdon.

failure. The men who join the Union are "marked men," and they naturally hesitate before taking a step, which may lead to their being deprived of both work and home within eight days or a fortnight. In such places as these, there is nothing to do, for the present, but to proclaim the iniquity of the landlord system, and to teach the labourers how to use their votes so as to bring about its abolition.

The number of leaflets distributed during the "Red Van" Campaign was 261,350.

II.—ORGANISATION.

It will be remembered that the campaign in Suffolk was carried on in co-operation with the Eastern Counties Labour Federation—an agricultural labourers' union which had been established in the county about a year before the visit of the van. At the end of each of the van meetings, the labourers present were invited to join the Federation, and, while the League was responsible for the carrying out and for the "following up" of the propaganda on the Land Question, the local Federation undertook to complete and maintain the organisation of the branches, whose foundations were laid at the League's meetings. The same plan has been followed during the second year's campaign, though in face of much greater difficulties, for, nowhere, except in the Eastern Counties, could a union be found which so well satisfied the conditions which the Executive believed to be essential to success.

After consultation with the Eastern Counties Labour Federation it was decided to attack the county of Cambridge on behalf of that body, which already had four branches in the county. In Herefordshire and Berkshire new unions were formed by local friends of the League, with assistance from the central office. An invitation to Somerset from a small and newly-formed union, struggling with the initial difficulties which beset all such ventures, was also accepted by the Executive.

The following statement shows the meetings held with the Vans in the above counties in direct connection with the four unions above mentioned:—

	Berks.	Camb.	Somerset.	Hereford.
No. of places* visited by Van...	126	128	120	62
No. of meetings actually held...	133	130	112	83
Branches existing before visit of Van ...	5†	4	12	9†
No. of branches founded by Van ...	96	107	68	35
Members enrolled at meetings	1,924	2,395	947	553

* Some of these places were visited more than once (especially in Hereford.)

† These branches were founded during the earlier lecture tour by the Organising Secretary of the League.

‡ The following statement gives all the meetings held under the "Red Van" Trust during the year: Berks, 110; Bucks, 2; Cambs., 130; Essex, 4; Gloucestershire, 2; Hampshire, 2; Herefordshire, 98; Hertfordshire, 2; Kent, 33; Middlesex (including election meetings in the County of London), 35; Oxfordshire, 5; Somerset, 132; Surrey, 2; Warwickshire, 3; Wiltshire, 2; Worcestershire, 4.—GROSS TOTAL, 596.

It has been the aim of the Executive to promote, in each county, the establishment of a strong, solid, self-governing union of labourers in that county. Even if the Executive had not been from the first opposed on principle to any attempt to organise and work agricultural labourers' unions from a London office, the collapse of such attempts recently made—to say nothing of the exigencies of the League's own work—would have deterred them from any such undertaking. But it is impossible for a League, which devotes its resources during many months to the drafting of labourers into local unions, not to feel a great sense of responsibility in the matter, and the Executive felt it their duty to secure beforehand the best guarantees possible for the *bona fides* of any union in connection with which they proposed to work. In February last the following minute of the Van Sub-committee was accordingly passed, and subsequently received the approval of the Executive:—

That in all applications from labour unions for the assistance of a Van the Executive will require to be satisfied that there is (1) a *bona fide* registered organisation, with (2) properly drawn rules and books, and (3) a properly elected Executive; and (4) that the union is, or is about to be, affiliated to the Trades Union Congress.

No opportunity has been lost of urging upon the labourers, in whatever county, that it is their first duty, in their branch meetings and through their elected delegates at the central Executive, to take into their own hands the management of their own affairs. It appeared from the first, and a second year's experience confirms this, that the Trades Union was, for many reasons, the only form of organisation adapted to the present needs of the agricultural labourer, and that, through a Trades Union, he could work successfully towards the attainment of the social reforms which the League advocates. The newer labourers' unions, with which the League has been co-operating, differ in some important respects from the "National Union," founded in 1872 by Joseph Arch. They work within a more limited area—that of a county, or a limited group of counties with easy communication—and the branches are therefore in closer and more frequent communication with headquarters. They have not burdened themselves with a "benefit section," such as has so disastrously complicated the financial difficulties of older unions. They avowedly discountenance strikes, and look rather to the use of the VOTE for the improvement of social conditions. And for these reasons they are able to work successfully on a smaller weekly subscription than was necessary in the older organisation. Above all, they see more clearly than ever that the quarrel of the labourer is not so much with the working farmer, as with the system of private ownership of land, under which both farmer and labourer are oppressed and robbed.

The Executive of the League must not, therefore, be counted among those who tell the labourer that the first duty of the Union is "to fight the farmer for him." But, on the other hand, it is impossible for the Executive to accept the suggestion, which has been made, that they should endeavour to promote the organisation of both farmers and labourers in the

same union, because of the fact that farmer and labourer, although they suffer from the same cause, do not suffer in just the same way. The labourers know that many of the farmers are more anxious to stand well with their landlords than to do justice to their labourers; that farmers who cannot pay high rents and "fair" wages begin to economise in nearly every case at the expense of "their men" rather than face a struggle with the landlord. So long, therefore, as the labourers have no confidence in the farmer, and the farmers have no respect for the men, united action is impossible. The recent "National Agricultural Conference" in London* showed plainly that the farmers, as a class, are, in matters of social economy, far more ignorant than the labourers who work under them; that the farmers still labour under the delusion, carefully fostered by the landlords, that their interests are identical with those of the monopolists of the soil; and that they are mostly given over to the superstition that the landlord-made policy of "protection" (which the labourers abominate because they know from experience that it means low wages, high rents, and dear food), will solve the problem of "agricultural depression." All of which shows that, while an immense amount of educational work needs to be done among the English farmers—work to which even now the League is giving special attention,—united action between farmers and labourers is, at present, out of the question.

The policy of the League is to develop the organisation of the labourers and to direct the forces of combination not merely to the ordinary ends of the older unions, but as a means to educate the electorate and to capture the administrative and legislative machinery of the country, with a view to the permanent improvement of social conditions, by the abolition of landlordism. In this the League receives the support of the ablest and most far-seeing of the labour leaders.

III. THE SOCIAL CONDITION OF THE VILLAGES.

Population.—The counties visited during the past year present very striking examples of the process of rural depopulation to which the League has so frequently drawn attention. The increase of population in all England and Wales between 1881 and 1891† amounted to 1·7 per cent. In the counties visited we find that the increase amounted in Berkshire to no more than 0·2 per cent.; in Somerset, 3·2; in Cambridgeshire, 1·7; while in Herefordshire there was an actual *decrease* in the ten years of no less than 4·3 per cent. When the figures for the registration sub-districts are gone into, the figures become even more significant. In Berkshire, although the increase in the population is less than the normal, more than half of it has gone to swell the population of Reading, and in thirteen of the thirty registration sub-districts into which the county is divided there is an actual decrease. In Cambridgeshire only the sub-

* At St. James's Hall, December 7th and 8th, 1892.

† Census of England and Wales, 1891. Preliminary Report. [H.C. 1891. C. 642.]

districts of Fulbourn, March, and Newmarket, and part of Cambridge, show a normal increase; every other part of the county has a population either all but stationary or rapidly decreasing. So far has the depopulation gone in this county that it has even affected the towns. Chatteris, Ely, and Whittlesey have fewer inhabitants to-day than they had ten years ago. The increase of population in Somersetshire is more than accounted for by the growth of a few towns; the rest of the county shows a considerable decrease. While in Herefordshire, except Ledbury (increase 2.9 per cent.), Hereford (1.1), Burghill (0.77), and Bishop's Frome (0.35), every registration sub-district has *decreased*, and some have decreased considerably, since 1881.

The Meetings.—In Herefordshire, the meetings were composed of labourers, small farmers, and women. Occasionally the vicar of the parish attended, and sometimes the landlord or his agent, and a few large farmers. In the absence of the lords of the parish, the labourers would often manifest the liveliest appreciation and enthusiasm; and the general tone of the meeting showed that the men were in accord with the views of the lecturer. Still, many places are hopelessly backward and the men sunk in apathy. In several cases, the audience consisted exclusively of labourers and tradesmen, the greatest enthusiasm prevailed, and practically the whole male adult population of the village joined the Union. In Somerset the general tone of the meetings was not so satisfactory. Twenty meetings are described as either, "very poor," "poor," or "disturbed and rowdy." The rest are described as "attentive," "good," and "fair," very few being classified as "splendid," or "enthusiastic." In Cambridgeshire the meetings were remarkably well attended in point of numbers, though, in the vicinity of Newmarket, the interruption from children, and from the jockey element, was very pronounced. John Murdoch states that at a similar stage in the Crofters' movement there was nothing like the attendance and enthusiasm shown by the Cambridgeshire men. In fact, with the exception of twelve meetings, which for various reasons are described as "poor," the tone of all the others seems to have been excellent throughout. In Berkshire the attendance was also excellent, only six meetings being characterised as "poor."

Wages and Labour.—The wages of the agricultural labourers in the four counties average from 11s. to 12s. per week, with, in some cases, a cottage free. In Herefordshire, in very special instances of handy men who can do more than the ordinary labourer, the wages reach 16s. to 17s. The wages are, in some measure, kept up in this county owing to the proximity of the South Wales iron and coal district on the one side, and the Midland manufacturing centres on the other, and a bonus of about 30s. is given at harvest time. In Somerset, wages fell as low as 9s. per week in three of the places visited, and rose to 16s. per week in only one place; a few instances were found where the wage was 15s. per week. In Cambridgeshire, wages fell as low as 10s. per week, in only one instance,

and in only one case rose as high as 14s., seldom reaching 13s. As a general rule, however, wages had gone up 1s. per week some months prior to the General Election. In Berkshire, at the village of Upton, the wage was only 8s. a week, while at Wokingham the maximum (16s.) was reached. In East Berks, which is politically the most apathetic portion of the county, the wage averaged 12s. to 14s. per week, but elsewhere 9s. to 11s. At East Hendred, the formation of a vigorous branch secured a rise of 2s. per week immediately. Women's labour in this county is paid at the rate of 8d. to 9d. a day.

The supply of labour naturally varied with the character of the agricultural opportunity in each county. In North Herefordshire, where much of the land is in permanent pasture, and the farms are large and badly worked, the demand for labour is scarce, except during harvest operations. What with the growing tendency to lay down land under grass, and the immense sections of land lying waste under docks, thistles, and couch grass, the chance for the labourer is indeed small. It is not uncommon to find farmers of 300 or 400 acres employing only three or four men. The land around the village of Shobdon used to provide employment for 500 men, but to-day not more than 50 are engaged. "Leaving the high road and going into the meadows, one is continually struck with the absence of all signs of labour and of human life. Nothing visible anywhere but a score or two of sheep, a few cows, the birds flying and chirping from tree to tree, the rabbits nibbling and running along the hedgerows. Thistles and weeds knee deep; no human life to be seen anywhere, no human labour manifest!" This is a not overdrawn picture, by one of the lecturers, of very many country districts in North Herefordshire. In Somerset the condition of large farms, tilled by men with insufficient capital, gives rise to a similar scarcity of demand for labour. Grass land here too is rapidly taking the place of corn land. In Cambridgeshire the scandalous way in which many of the larger farms are tilled, and the quantity of land lying waste, are sufficient evidences of the scarcity of labour employed. In this county there are, however, many small farmers and some small holders, and in most cases when such abound labour is fairly well in demand. Berkshire, again, is kept backward by the size of the farms, bad tillage, and insufficient capital. Some farmers, who do not stint their land, find that farming pays, but such cases are few and far between; the tendency having been for farmers to increase their holdings, till their capital is insufficient, then the lands are turned off, the land becomes foul, and the crops choked with weeds and thistles. These men being, for the most part, almost wholly devoid of any knowledge of chemistry or of scientific agriculture, do not know how to replace the mineral constituents abstracted, and thus the land is becoming less fertile year by year.

The Cottages.—The cottage accommodation may be described generally as inadequate in point of space, unsatisfactory in condition, and, for the most part, defective in sanitary

arrangements. In North Herefordshire some landlords take a special interest in having their cottages kept in good order, and the sanitary inspectors' influence is occasionally apparent. Still, many dwellings are described as "not fit for a pig to live in," and one labourer complained that he had to keep a bucket on his head during wet nights to catch the rain coming through the roof. During the existence of the National Agricultural Labourers' Union, governmental pressure was brought to compel several large landlords to make very substantial improvements in their cottage property. But it appears that immediately the active organisers of that Union had left the district, the repairs in hand were discontinued, and have never been touched again to this day. In Somerset, the chief source of complaint is that in a large majority of cases the cottages are in the hands of the farmers, rendering the tenant liable to eviction at short notice, and leaving him a victim of his "master's" capricious conduct. The cottages are almost invariably too small and thoroughly insanitary. In Cambridgeshire, the cottages are in many instances decaying, and oftentimes belong to comparatively poor and greedy men, who exact the uttermost farthing, and spend little or nothing in repairs, the tenants being forced to live in such hovels simply because it is a case of "Hobson's choice." As a general rule the cottages of Berkshire were found to be shockingly bad, and frequently the health of the inmates is endangered by the proximity of open drains and stagnant sewage.

Drainage and Water Supply.—Drainage and water supply were found deficient almost everywhere. It rarely happened in North Herefordshire that there was any adequate system of drainage in any parish. Too often, if the village pump required some small repairs, it seemed to be no one's business to see to it, and the inhabitants had to fetch water from a well perhaps half-a-mile distant. The same want of public spirit prevented any useful outlay being forced upon the Local Board, and the people bowed to the circumstances for fear of "increasing the rate." In Somerset, matters have been somewhat improved by the timely action of the County Council. Springs have been protected and wells sunk, but to secure these advantages more generally Parish Councils are needed. In Cambridgeshire the supply of water is small and bad in a good many places, the poor depending on the ponds. At Longstow there is neither well nor pump, the people using water from a ditch, which likewise provides for Bourne and Cayton, and at Bourne some of the water was actually smelling offensively, the sewage from the big farms mixing with it. Some parts of Berkshire are no better than Cambridgeshire in respect of drainage and water supply.

Common Lands.—With very few exceptions, all the land coming under this classification has long been enclosed by the successive Lords of the respective Manors. In Herefordshire, gross cases of recent date may be easily traced. Small commons exist at Almeley, Monkland and a few other places,

and at Ivington, near Leominster, there is some common land which is splendid pasture. In Cambridgeshire, commons are few and far between. There is a twenty-one acre green at Burrington, on which the villagers keep stock free, and at Newton there is a similar common. In Berkshire, there are considerable commons, but definite knowledge in regard to them was hard to obtain.

Poors Land and other Charities.—The disappearance or misapplication of money left for charitable purposes formed a common grievance in many places. In Herefordshire, a most striking illustration is found in connection with what is known as Jarvis' charity.

The history of this charity is as follows: A certain Mr. Jarvis left the parish of Staunton-on-Wye in the early part of the 18th century and received assistance out of the Poors' Fund from the parishes of Bredwardine, Staunton-on-Wye and Letton. Subsequently he made an enormous fortune. By his last will, dated 1790, he left to the parishes named above the sum of £30,000 stock, the dividend of which was to be devoted to the relief of the poor and aged people in the said three parishes, educational purposes, medical assistance and apprenticing poor children. In addition, the will, after making sundry legacies, gives the whole of the residue of the estate to be used for the above charitable objects, "according to discretion of my executors and trustees, but my will and wish is that none of the said trust monies shall be used for erecting any public or other building whatsoever."

The Charity Commissioners reported in 1835 that the Jarvis charity amounted to the capital sum of £100,000, with a dividend of £3,000 per annum, and that the fund was administered in accordance with the will of the donor, and it appears that the sums distributed in 1835 in food, fuel, clothing, &c., amounted to over £10 per family per annum in the three parishes.

Since 1830 the administration of the charity has been scandalously neglected, and the surplus of unadministered dividend had become so large in 1880 that the trustees decided to devise some scheme in order to get rid of this surplus. Special powers were sought and obtained to devote £20,000 to the erection of a very large building designed as a boarding school. This building is situated in the parish of Staunton-on-Wye, and is known in the locality as the "White Elephant." It has been a gigantic failure from the time of its erection to the present day. More than three-quarters of the structure is unused and unoccupied, and it swallows up every year for repairs, etc., a considerable portion of the annual income produced by the charity.

In Somerset much dissatisfaction exists in regard to the control of the charities. Whilst in the majority of instances the donors have intended their gifts to be for common benefit, the clergyman of the parish almost invariably confines the gifts to regular attendants at the parish church; or at least this is a very general complaint. In Cambridgeshire charities are almost universal, and are found to be doing more harm than

good, giving the clergy a hold over the bodies and souls of the people, and calculated to keep them submissive. When the charity is in the form of land, heavy rents are demanded from the users of the land, and some of the rent goes back in doles. These gifts demoralise the people, making them think more of what they may get than of their right to be independent of idle benefactors. In Berkshire complaint was made that the charities were often used as bribes to secure allegiance to the Church, and also the amount originally given has dwindled considerably. But little positive information is obtainable.

Allotments.—In Herefordshire, out of over eighty places visited, there were only fourteen where allotments could be obtained. There are three reasons which chiefly account for this. First, most of the labourers' cottages possess as much garden attached as spare time will allow the tenant to cultivate. Secondly, where an allotment is to be had, the rent of it is often so manifestly unfair and exorbitant, compared with the rent of similar land let to adjoining farmers, that the labourer will often go without a desired allotment rather than subscribe to the conditions imposed. Thirdly, farmers do not want labourers who devote their time to cultivating allotments, contending that the labourer cannot render his due service to his employer if he spends several hours of the day in working hard for himself. The average rent of the few allotments varied from £1 10s. to £7 10s. per acre, and the average size from one-eighth to one-fourth of an acre, rarely more than half an acre. In productiveness allotments far excel the farm lands. In Somerset, some thirty-eight villages out of the number visited were found to be without allotments. For the rest it may be pointed out that exorbitant rent, disadvantageous position, or the inferiority of the land, interfered with the utility of the grant. The rent averaged from £3 to £4 per acre; at three places it was from £4 to £8; at thirteen places from £4 to £5; at Nunney, Butcombe, and Trull, it was £8 per acre, and the lowest figure was, in two cases, found to be £1 per acre.

In Cambridgeshire, with only four exceptions, allotments were found in every village visited. The same complaint in regard to rent, position and nature of land is here found as in Somerset. The men find they have to pay from three to eight times the rent per acre demanded for farm lands, but produce far better results than the farmers. At Whittlesford, the allotment yield is said to be five times as much per acre as the farms. The size of the lots varies from ten rods to two acres. The average rent would be about £2 2s. per acre, but it is hard to fix, for at Basingbourne the rent runs from £2 to £8, Elsworth £1 10s. to £6, Wisbech £4 to £6, Ely £4 to £5, etc. A man who rented at the rate of 32s. per acre, stated that it paid him to give a day now and again to his lot, and sacrifice his wages.

In Berkshire 24 villages out of the number visited had no allotments. The same complaint is made as to rent, position and quality of land. At some places—Sunninghill and Strat-

field Mortimer for instance—the land is mere bog and heath. The yield of the allotments is, on the whole, excellent. The average rent is from £2 10s. to £3 per acre, but at 6 places the rent was £4 per acre; at 2 from £4 to £8; at Windsor, £5 to £8; Clewer, £6 to £8; while at Faringdon the rent varied from £4 to £16 per acre.

Small Holdings and Small Farms.—In Herefordshire there are not many small farms, but, where they exist, the rent per acre is always much higher than that paid for the large farms. There are likewise very few small holders, and the minimum rent seems to average about £5 per acre. In Somerset the same remarks apply, and in both counties the large farmers compete greedily with one another for any land which falls into the market, so the small man has little chance. In Cambridgeshire, the sub-division of land into small farms was more frequent, and the system gives uniform satisfaction. Whilst most of the old tenants of large farms have died poor or in bankruptcy, the small farmers have stood out remarkably well. Here, as elsewhere, the rent of small farms was high—from 30/- to £5. Small holdings are—like the allotments—held under unfavourable conditions, frequently in detached strips scattered over the village, and at a rent varying from twice to four times that paid for large farms. The yield is often twice, and sometimes much more, per acre than that of the large farms. At Weston Colville there are fifty men occupying small holdings. At Steeple Morden there is an association known as "The Dry Club" (because the members decline to meet in a public-house), which has invested £3,000 in 56 acres of land, now let out in small holdings. The land is also well divided up at Downham, where there are over one hundred small farms, and at Over, where many labourers have become small holders. At Benwick, there are one hundred small farmers who have thrived, even in spite of high rents. Doddington has many small farms, and Wicken and Cottenham may be also mentioned in this connection. In Berkshire there are few small farms and small holdings. As a rule small farmers pay better wages than large farmers.

Rent of Large Farms.—In Herefordshire the average may be put at £1 to 30s., often falling as low as 15s. per acre, and never rising higher than £2 10s. There has been a considerable reduction of rent for large farms in the last 10 years. In Somerset the average rent is 25s. to 30s., falling as low as 10s. per acre and rising as high as £4. In Cambridgeshire the average is hard to fix, but it is probably under £1. Some lands are rented at 5s., 7s. 6d. and 10s., up to £2 10s. per acre, which appears to be the maximum. In Berkshire the rent is more uniform, averaging from 25s. to 30s. in some parts and 20s. to 25s. per acre in others. It rarely falls below 10s. per acre, and never rises beyond 35s. This uniformity is due probably to the fact that large farms are so general in this county.

The "Red Van" Fund.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE, DECEMBER, 1891—DECEMBER, 1892.

Receipts.

	£	s.	d.
In hand, Dec. 14th, 1891 (see "Red Van" Report, 1891,)	16	2	7½
Subscriptions (as per list on page 17)	117	12	2

£1,133 14 9½

Examined with the bank pass book and vouchers and found correct.
LONDON, 4th January, 1892.

Expenditure.

	£	s.	d.
Building three VANS; purchase and alteration of one	292	8	0
SALARIES:
Lecturers (including Preliminary Meeting)	£228	5	0
Driver (including Horse hire)	22	10	6
Organising Expenses at Central Office	94	9	0
Travelling Expenses (including Preliminary and Special Meetings)	542	15	10½
Railway Charges for Carriage of Vans	50	12	4½
Printing and Typewriting	5	19	9
Postage, Telegrams, Books, and "Loudspeaker"	135	9	9
Fiscal Orders	51	0	11½
Advertisements, Billposting and Distributing, and	8	10	8
Standing for Vans; and Tolls	5	18	5½
Oil, Washing, Candles, and Sundries	8	8	0½
Stationery, Maps, and Directories	7	10	11
Stationery, Maps, and Directories	0	6	0
Bank Charges	0	8	4
Cash at bank, Dec. 16, 1892	+	4	2
	£1,133	14	9½

SAMUEL J. BOYCE,

Chartered Accountant.

List of Subscriptions.

	£	s.	d.
Guarantors' Subscriptions			
(1892)	1,000	0	0
Guarantors' Subscriptions			
(1893)*	100	0	0
OTHER SUBSCRIPTIONS:			
Anon (per B. Burgin)	0	5	0
" (per W. Liversedge)	0	5	0
Armitage, Jos.	0	5	0
Black, Rev. J. W.	0	10	0
Blair, Duncan R.	0	5	0
Bruce, Wm.	0	10	0
Chapman, W.	0	0	3
Clapperton, J. H.	0	2	6
Curtis, Thomas	0	2	6
" (and don.)	0	2	0
Cuttle, George	0	2	6
Earp, Oswald	1	0	0
Fowke, W. D.	0	5	0
Gallagher, W.	0	0	6
Hallifax, Sydney	0	17	11
Howson, Alfred	0	5	0
Forward	£1,104	18	2
Forward			
Jones, Dr. Pan	1,104	18	2
Laing, W. W.	0	2	6
Lyford, Wm.	0	1	0
Muse, Thomas	0	2	0
Napier, Captain	0	1	6
Ollerton, R.	0	5	0
Oulett, J. J.	0	2	6
Pike, Chas.	0	5	0
Powell, A.	0	2	6
" (and don.)	0	2	6
Presbury, H. H.	0	5	0
Prime, John	0	1	0
Saunders, Geo. F.	0	1	0
Shore, Thomas	0	3	0
Smith, A. R.	0	1	0
Squire, H. H.	0	2	6
Stevenson, F. S., M.P.	10	0	0
Trow, E.	0	2	6
Wake, John	0	0	6
Webster, Wm.	0	5	0
Westby, Captain	0	2	0
Weymouth, E. S.	0	2	6
Whyte, W.	0	1	0
Total	£1,117	12	2

* Some of the subscribers have been good enough to pay their subscriptions quarterly in advance as from October 1891, in order to give the Committee a balance in hand towards the heavy preliminary expenses.

APPENDIX A.

LIST OF MEETINGS

HELD UNDER THE "RED VAN" TRUST DURING 1892.

I.—BERKSHIRE.

PRELIMINARY MEETINGS.

APRIL.—1, Sunninghill†; 12, Finchampstead†; 14, Hungerford†; 16, Bracknell†.

VAN MEETINGS.

MAY.—16, Wokingham†; 17, Finchampstead (and visit)†; 18, Sandhurst†; 19, Easthampstead†; 20, Sunninghill (and visit)†; 21, Bracknell (and visit)†; 23, Binfield†; 24, Warfield†; 25, Winkfield†; 26, Old Windsor†; 27, Windsor†; 28, Clewer†; 30, Holyport†; 31, Maidenhead†.

JUNE.—1, Cookham†; 2, Bisham†; 3, Hurley†; 4, Cockpole Green†; 6, Wargrave†; 7, White Waltham†; 8, Waltham St. Lawrence†; 9, Twyford†; 10, Sonning†; 11, Hurst†; 13, Earley Rise†; 14, Reading†; 15, Shinfield†; 16, Arborfield†; 17, Sealefield†; 18, Stratfield Mortimer†; 20, Aldermaston†; 21, Brimpton†; 22, Woolhampton†; 23, Thatcham†; 24, Shaw-cum-Donnington†; 25, Bucklebury†; 27, Beenham Vallence†; 28, Upton†; 29, Burghfield†; 30, Tilehurst†.

JULY.—1, Theale†; 2, Englefield†; 4, Bradfield†; 5, Vattendon†; 6, Hampstead Norris†; 7, Ashmstead†; 8, Basildon (Upper)†; 9, Pangbourne†; 11, Streteley†; 12, Monksford†; 13, Blewbury†; 14, Chilton†; 15, Upton†; 16, East Hagbourne†; 18, Cholsey†; 19, Wallingford†; 20, Brightwell†; 21, Long Wittenham†; 22, Appleford†; 23, Sutton Courtney†; 25, Didcot†; 26, Harwell†; 27, East Hendred†; 28, Stevenage†; 29, Milton†; 30, Drayton†.

AUGUST.—1, Abingdon†; 2, Radley†; 3, Sunningwell†; 4, Wootton†; 5, North Hinksey†; 6, Wytham†; 8, Cumnor†; 9, Appleton†; 10, Marcham†; 11, E. Hanne†; 12, Fyfield†; 13, Longworth†; 15, Buckland†; 16, Stanford-in-the-Vale†; 17, Eyring†; 18, Buscot†; 19, Colehill†; 20, Great Coxwell†; 22, Longcott†; 23, Shrivensham†; 24, Ashbury†; 25, Uffington†; 26, Kingsmead†; 27, Sparsholt†; 29, Childrey†; 30, Wantage†; 31, Grove†.

SEPTEMBER.—1, E. Lockinge†; 2, Letcombe Regis†; 3, West Shefford†; 5, E. Garsdon†; 6, Lamborne†; 7, Chaddlesworth†; 8, Brightwellham†; 9, E. Hiley†; 10, Compton†; 12, Beeson†; 13, Chieveley†; 14, Winterbourne†; 15, Boxford†; 16, Welford†; 17, Enborne†; 19, Hampstead Marshall†; 20, Kintbury†; 21, Inkpen†; 22, Shalbourne†; 23, Hungerford (and visit)†; 24, Eastbury†; 26, Bishopstone†; 27, Waterfield†; 28, Shrivensham (and visit)†; 29, Buckland (and visit)†; 30, Denchworth†.

* † ‡ § See footnotes, p. 22.

OCTOBER.—1, West Hanne†; 3, Charney Bassett†; 5, Hinton Waldrist†; 5, Kingstone Bagpuize†; 6, Stevenage (and visit)†; 7, E. Hagborne (and visit)†; 9, N. Moreton†; 10, Aston Tirrold†; 11, Aldworth†; 12, Hemilage†; 13, Vattendon (and visit)†; 14, Cold Ash†; 15, Stanford Dingley†; 17, Pangbourne (and visit)†; 18, Earley (and visit)†; 19, Binfield (and visit)†; 20, Dedworth Green (Clever) (and visit)†.

HOMEWARD JOURNEY.

OCTOBER.—21, Hounslow (Middlesex).

II.—CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

VAN MEETINGS.

MAY.—17, Ashley-cum-Silverley†; 18, Chieveley†; 19, Kirtling†; 20, Wood Ditton†; 21, Stetchworth†; 23, Dullingham†; 24, Borough Green†; 25, Brinkley†; 26, Weston Colville†; 27, Carlton†; 28, West Wrating†; 30, Balsham†; 31, West Wickham.

JUNE.—1, Horseheath†; 2, Castle Camps†; 3, Linton*†; 4, Great and Little Abington†; 6, Ickleton†; 7, Duxford†; 8, Whittlesford†; 9, Pampisford†; 10, Sawston†; 11, Babraham†; 13, Stapelford†; 14, Fulbourn†; 15, Cherry Hinton†; 16, Great Wilbraham†; 17, Bottisham†; 18, Fen Ditton†; 20, Horningssea†; 21, Swaffham Bulbeck†; 22, Swaffham Prior†; 23, Barwell†; 24, Chippenham†; 25, Fordham†; 27, Wicken†; 28, Isleham†; 29, Soham†; 30, Stuntney†.

JULY.—1, Ely†; 2, Downham†; 4, Witchford†; 5, Thetford†; 6, Stretham†; 7, Wilburton†; 8, Haddesham†; 9, Cottenham†; 11, Landbeach†; 12, Waterbeach†; 13, Milton†; 14, Impington†; 15, Histon†; 16, Girton†; 18, Chester-ton†; 19, Madingley†; 20, Coton†; 21, Comberton†; 22, Barton†; 23, Grantchester†; 25, Trumpington†; 26, Great Shelford†; 27, Hauxton†; 28, Harston†; 29, Newton†; 30, Tripton†.

AUGUST.—1, Foulmire†; 2, Shepreth†; 3, Foxton†; 4, Barrington†; 5, Haslingfield†; 6, Harlton†; 8, Orwell†; 9, Meldreth†; 10, Melbourn†; 11, Roy-ston†; 12, Lillington†; 13, Steeple Morden†; 15, Guilden Morden†; 16, Basing-lourne†; 17, Whaddon†; 18, Wimpole†; 19, Arrington†; 20, Croydon†; 22, Gantlingay†; 23, Little Gransden†; 24, Long Stow†; 25, Great and Little Eversden†; 26, Kingstont†; 27, Toft†; 28, Bourne†; 29, Caxton†; 31, Croxton†.

SEPTEMBER.—1, Hildesley†; 2, Graveley†; 3, Elsworth†; 5, Knapwell†; 6, Boxworth†; 7, Dry Drayton†; 8, Oakington†; 9, Rampton†; 10, Willingham†; 12, Long Stanton†; 13, Fen Drayton†; 14, Swavesey†; 15, Over†; 16, Witcham†; 17, Covey†; 19, Mepal†; 20, Manea†; 21, Wimbington†; 22, March†; 23, Elm†; 24, Wisbech St. Mary†; 26, Wisbech†; 27, Leverington†; 29, Tydd St. Giles†; 30, Gorefield†.

OCTOBER.—1, Parson Drove†; 3, Guyhirn†; 4, Thorney†; 5, Whittlesea†; 6, Benwick†; 7, Dodington†; 8, Chatteris†; 10, Sutton†; 11, Stretham†; 12, Waterbeach† (and visit)†; 13, New Chesterton†; 14, Great Shelford† (and visit)†; 15, Ickleton† (and visit)†.

HOMEWARD JOURNEY.

OCTOBER.—17, Saffron Walden (Essex)†; 18, Bishop Stortford (Herts.)†; 19, Harlow (Essex)†; 20, Epping (Essex)†; 21, Wanstead (Essex).

III.—SOMERSET.

PRELIMINARY MEETINGS.

JANUARY.—9, Westport* ; 10, Langport ; 11, South Petherton* ; 12, Ilton* ; 13, Curry Rivell* ; 14, Shepton Beauchamp* ; 15, Ilminster ; 16, Kingsbury* ; 18, Fivehead.

VAN MEETINGS.

MAY.—25, Langport (2nd visit) ; 26, Curry Rivell (2nd visit) ; 27, Fivehead (2nd visit) ; 28, Barrington* ; 30, South Petherton (2nd visit)* ; 31, Kingsbury Episcopi (2nd visit).

JUNE.—1, Somerton* ; 2, Long Sutton* ; 3, Tintinhull* ; 4, Martock ; 6, Stoke-sub-Hamden* ; 7, Montacute* ; 8, Mudford* ; 9, Babcary* ; 10, Barton St. David* ; 11, West Bradley* ; 13, Glastonbury* ; 14, Pilton* ; 15, Doulting ; 16, Upton Noble* ; 17, Nunney ; 18, Stoke Lane* ; 19, Binegar* ; 21, Stratton-on-the-Fosse* ; 22, Buckland Dinham* ; 23, Norton St. Philip* ; 24, Combe Hay ; 25, Publow* ; 27, Brislington ; 28, Dundry* ; 29, Chew Magna* ; 30, Chew Stoke*.

JULY.—1, West Hartpree* ; 2, Chewton Mendip* ; 3, Priddy* ; 4, Ubley* ; 6, Butcombe* ; 7, Wrington* ; 8, West Town* ; 9, Backwell* ; 11, Long Ashton* ; 12, Wraxall ; 13, Clapton-in-Gordano* ; 14, Nailsea ; 15, Kenn* ; 16, Yatton* ; 18, Puxton* ; 19, Churchill* ; 20, Locking* ; 21, Lynnhams* ; 22, Weare ; 23, Rowlborrow* ; 25, Stoke Rodney* ; 26, Wokey* ; 27, Wedmore* ; 28, Mark* ; 29, East Brent ; 30, Huntspill.

AUGUST.—1, Cossington* ; 2, Sutton Mallet* ; 3, Meare* ; 4, Walton* ; 5, Baltonsborough ; 6, Compton Dundon* ; 8, High Ham ; 9, Othery* ; 10, North Petherton* ; 11, Charlton* ; 12, Chilton Trinity ; 13, Stoke Courery* ; 15, Over Stoney* ; 16, Bicknoller* ; 17, Brompton Ralph ; 18, Chipstable ; 19, Bath-eaton ; 20, Langford Budville ; 22, West Buckland ; 23, Pimminster ; 24, Stupel Fitzpaine ; 25, Trull* ; 26, Bishop Lydard ; 27, West Monkton* ; 29, Creech St. Michael* ; 30, Curry Mallet* ; 31, Ilton (2nd visit).

SEPTEMBER.—1, Hambridge ; 2, Combe St. Nicholas* ; 3, Dowlish Wake* ; 5, Misterton* ; 6, Haslebury Plucknett* ; 7, West Coker ; 8, Thorne Coffin ; 9, Sandford Orcast ; 10, Charlton Hortherne ; 12, North Cadbury* ; 18, Charlton Mackrell* ; 14, West Lydford* ; 15, Ansford ; 16, Redlynch ; 17, Stoke Trister* ; 19, Maperton* ; 20, Henstridge* ; 21, Rimpington* ; 22, Chilthorne Dorner* ; 23, Odcombe* ; 24, Barwick* ; 26, East Coker* ; 27, Hardington Mandeville* ; 28, East Chinnock* ; 29, Dinnington* ; 30, Norton-sub-Mendip.

OCTOBER.—1, Preston Plucknett* ; 3, Chiselborough* ; 4, Shepton Beauchamp* (2nd visit) ; 5, Drayton ; 6, Long Lodd* ; 7, Pincey ; 8, Aller* ; 9, Langport (3rd visit) ; 10, Long Sutton (2nd visit) ; 12, West Camel* ; 13, Wincanton*.

HOMeward JOURNEY.

OCTOBER.—14, Hindon (Wilts.) ; 15, Salisbury (Wilts.) ; 17, Andover (Hants.) ; 18, Basingstoke (Hants.) ; 19, Bagshot (Surrey) ; 20, Egham (Surrey) ; 21, Brentford (Middlesex).

IV.—HEREFORDSHIRE.

PRELIMINARY MEETINGS.

MAY.—3, Kingsland* ; 4, Pembridge* ; 5, Kington* ; 6, Eardisland* ; 7, Aymestry ; 9, Shobdon ; 10, Yarpole* ; 11, Monkland* ; 12, Dilwyn* ; 13, Luston* ; 14, Wigmore*.

VAN MEETINGS.

OUTWARD JOURNEY.

JUNE.—23, Beaconsfield (Bucks) ; 24, Tetworth (Oxon) ; 25, Headington Quarry (Oxon) ; 26, Witney (Oxon) ; 27, Northleach (Gloucester) ; 28, Moreton-in-Marsh (Gloucester) ; 29, Evesham (Worcester) ; 30, Worcester (Worcestershire).

VAN MEETINGS IN THE COUNTY.

JULY.—1, Bromyard ; 2, Leominster* ; 4, Kingsland (2nd visit)* ; 5, Monkland (2nd visit)* ; 6, Ivington ; 7, Eardisland* ; 8, Dilwyn (2nd visit)* ; 9, Pembridge (2nd visit)* ; 11, Shobdon (2nd visit) ; 12, Aymestry (2nd visit) ; 13, Yarpole (2nd visit)* ; 14, Luston (2nd visit)* ; 15, Kimbolton ; 16, The Leysters ; 17, Middleton-on-the-Hill ; 19, Little Hereford ; 20, Brimfield* ; 21, Orleton* ; 22, Barrington* ; 23, Leintwardine* ; 25, Brampton Bryan ; 26, Wigmore (2nd visit)* ; 27, Lingens* ; 28, Byton* ; 29, Staunton-on-Arrow* ; 30, Titley*.

AUGUST.—1, Kington (2nd visit)* ; 2, Lyonshall* ; 3, Almeley* ; 4, Kinnersley* ; 5, Eardisley* ; 6, Brilley ; 8, Whitney* ; 9, Clifford Village ; 10, Cusop ; 11, Dorstone* ; 12, Bredwardine* ; 13, Norton Canon* ; 15, Staunton-on-Wye* ; 16, Preston-on-Wye* ; 17, Byford* ; 18, Bishopstone* ; 19, Mansell Lacy ; 20, Canon Pyon* ; 22, Kings Pyon* ; 23, Weobley ; 24, Hope-under-Dinmore* ; 25, Humber* ; 26, Bodenham ; 27, Stoke Prior* ; 29, Hatfield* ; 30, Thornbury ; 31, Stoke Bliss*.

SEPTEMBER.—1, Upper Sapey* ; 2, Tedstone Delamere* ; 3, Whitbourne ; 5, Bromyard (2nd visit) ; 6, Avenbury* ; 7, Bishop Frome* ; 8, Cradley ; 9, Alud Cowarne ; 10, Stoke Lacy* ; 12, Pencombe* ; 13, Ullingswick* ; 14, Ocle Pychard ; 15, Hope-under-Dinmore (2nd visit) ; 16, Ivington (2nd visit) ; 17, Luston (3rd visit)* ; 19, Kimbolton (2nd visit) ; 20, The Leysters (2nd visit)* ; 21, Little Hereford (2nd visit) ; 22, Brimfield (2nd visit)* ; 23, Orleton (2nd visit)* ; 24, Yarpole (3rd visit) ; 26, Aymestry (3rd visit) ; 27, Wigmore (3rd visit)* ; 28, Leintwardine (2nd visit)* ; 29, Brampton Bryan (2nd visit) ; 30, Lingens*.

OCTOBER.—1, Byton* ; 3, Titley* ; 4, Lyonshall (2nd visit)* ; 5, Almeley (2nd visit)* ; 6, Eardisley (2nd visit)* ; 7, Norton Canon (2nd visit)* ; 8, Weobley (2nd visit) ; 10, Leominster (2nd visit).

HOMeward JOURNEY.

OCTOBER.—11, Tenbury (Worcester) ; 12, Droitwich (Worcester)* ; 13, Alcester (Warwick)* ; 14, Stratford-on-Avon (Warwick) ; 15, Kineton (Warwick) ; 17, Banbury (Oxon) ; 18, Bicester (Oxon) ; 19, Aylesbury (Bucks)* ; 20, Berkhamstead (Herts) ; 21, Edgware (Middlesex).

V. KENT.

MEETINGS WITHOUT A VAN.

In connection with the London and Counties Labour League.

FEBRUARY.—15, Boughton; 16, Herne Hill; 17, Staple Street; 18, Selling; 19, Oare; 20, Ospringe; 22, Baddlesmere; 23, Throwley; 24, Eastling; 25, Doddington; 26, Brents; 27, Newnham; 29, Rainham.

MARCH.—1, Key Street; 2, Newington; 3, Lynsted; 4, Rodmersham; 5, Murston.

JULY.—Fifteen meetings held with the "Red Van" in support of Sydney Hallifax' candidature in the Faversham Division.

* Branch of Union in existence previous to visit of League lecturer.

† Branch of Union founded at previous visit of League lecturer.

‡ New Branch of Union founded by League lecturer.

§ No meeting possible (owing to bad weather) local fair, harvest work, harvest supper, flower show, or election meeting, &c.



[APPENDIX B.]

"Land Restoration Van," No. _____

DAILY REPORT FORM.

[This form to be filled up after each Meeting and posted to the Secretary, E.L.R.L., 8 Duke Street, Adelphi, London, W.C.]

Place _____ County of _____ Date _____ 189

Chairman _____ Lecturer _____

Other Speakers _____

Attendance at Meeting (about) _____ Hour _____ p.m.

Resolution (if any):—

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

Give particulars of vote _____

Names and Addresses of sympathisers*—

It is particularly requested that an effort be made at every meeting to collect the names and addresses of any who are in sympathy with the objects of the League, in order that they may be supplied from time to time with literature.

[P.T.O.]

Are there any **Allotments** in the Parish?

How, to what extent?

Allotment Rent per Acre?

Farmers' Rent per Acre?

Names of largest **Farmers** in the Parish. State acreage and rent, if possible.

Any **unoccupied Farms** or **uncultivated Lands**? For what reasons?

What is the rate of **Agricultural Labourers' Wages**?

Rent of Cottages?

Is the **Population** diminishing? If so, what is the reason locally given for this?

Are there any large **Mansions** or **Parks** in the Parish?

Name of Man or Hall

Name of Owner

Amount of Land, &c., enclosed

Local Organisations. Labourers' Unions; Political or Social Clubs; Associations; "Reading Rooms," etc., with Secretaries' names and addresses.

Remarks:

Signed

[P.T.O.]

To the **WORKERS** in Villages & Towns.

Why not make life pleasanter by

STARTING A WORKMEN'S CLUB,

where you can meet after work is over and smoke your pipe, and read and discuss the news of the day in your own club-room.

Talk over questions which affect the welfare of the workers.

Have Music and Singing, and Games of all kinds.

Hold your Union meetings and transact your business away from the public house.

For full information how to do this and for **MODEL RULES** for such a **CLUB**, send a letter to the

Working Men's Club & Institute Union,

CLERKENWELL ROAD, LONDON, E.C.,

Which is a Federation of over 400 of these Clubs and Institutes, and supported and managed by workmen.

If you can arrange a meeting to talk about starting a club, the Union will send you a

Speaker Free of Charge,

on your applying to

J. J. DENT,

SECRETARY.

[ADVT.]

1. **Unoccupied Farms** **uncultivated Lands?** **unoccupied Farms** **uncultivated Lands?**

2. **Agricultural Labourers' Wages?**

3. **Rent**

4. **Population**

5. **Mansions Parks**

Local Organisations.

Remarks :

(P.T. 9.)

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SECRETARY.

[ADVT.]

English Land Restoration League.

OBJECT: *The Abolition of Landlordism.*

METHOD: *The Abolition of all taxes upon labour and the products of labour and the earnings of labour; and the increase of taxation upon land values until the whole annual value of land is taken for public purposes.*

MINIMUM SUBSCRIPTION: *One Shilling a Year.*

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BY HENRY GEORGE.

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Thou Shalt not Steal	(16 pp.)	1d. ; 5s. 0d. per 100
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Land and People	(24 pp.)	" "
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The Peer and the Prophet (HENRY GEORGE and the DUKE OF ARGYLL.)	...		6d.
PROGRESS AND POVERTY	(in paper covers)	1s. (cloth) 1s. 6d.
SOCIAL PROBLEMS*	" "	1s. " 1s. 6d.
PROTECTION AND FREE TRADE	" "	1s. " 1s. 6d.
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